

**STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES**

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION</b>	<b>)</b>	
<b>OF MAINE COAST NORDIC, INC. FOR RENEWAL</b>	<b>)</b>	<b>FINDINGS OF FACT,</b>
<b>OF AN AQUACULTURE LEASE LOCATED WEST</b>	<b>)</b>	<b>CONCLUSIONS OF LAW AND</b>
<b>OF SPECTACLE ISLAND, EASTERN BAY, BEALS</b>	<b>)</b>	<b>DECISION</b>
<b>WASHINGTON COUNTY, MAINE</b>	<b>)</b>	

On October 24, 2001, Maine Coast Nordic, Inc. made application for renewal of an aquaculture lease issued to them on May 1, 1992. The application requested a ten-year renewal to April 30, 2012, for 10.0 acres using pen culture techniques, of coastal water and public land.

Notice of the application for lease renewal was published in the January 2002 issue of Commercial Fisheries News and the December 26, 2001 and January 9, 2002 issues of the Machias Valley Observer. Members of the public and interested persons were given to January 25, 2002 to request a hearing on the application for lease renewal. No requests for a hearing on this application were received by the Department during the comment period that ended January 25, 2002, or at any time subsequent to the date of this decision.

Applications for aquaculture lease renewals are governed by 12 M.R.S.A. §6072(12) and Chapter 2.45 of the Department's rules, which provide that an aquaculture lease may be renewed unless the lessee has not complied with the original lease agreement during its term, substantially no aquaculture or research has been conducted, the Commissioner finds that it is not in the best interest of the state to renew the lease considering conflict with other new or existing uses of the area which the Commissioner determines to be a higher use of the area from the perspective of the public interest, or that the renewal will cause the lessee to be a tenant of any kind in leases covering an aggregate of more than 250 acres.

**Decision**

The Commissioner of Marine Resources grants the renewal of Maine Coast Nordic, Inc., to renew a 10-acre aquaculture lease located west of Spectacle Island, Eastern Bay, Beals, Washington County, Maine, for a period of ten years, to April 30, 2012.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

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**George D. Lapointe (Commissioner)**  
**Department of Marine Resources**